Standardisation of quality education

1960. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to standardise the quality of education by both private and Government schools as quality education is the biggest challenge facing the country today;

(b) if so, whether around one crore children are still out of school at present;

(c) whether in higher education more than 356 universities and 15,000 institutions of higher education are regulated by the bodies that have outlived their mandate;

(d) whether Government propose a centralised body for monitoring the role of education; and

(e) if so, what other steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Education being a Concurrent subject, school education primarily comes under the purview of State Governments. However, Central Government through National Curriculum Framework prepared by NCERT, recommends broad framework for school curriculum, which all State Governments are expected to adopt. All schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education, also follow a common curriculum. Schools run by the Central Government such as the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas act as pace setting institutions for quality education. Under Sarva Shikksha Abhiyan (SSA), the major part of fund allocation is for promotion of quality in schools under its ambit.

(b) As per an independent survey conducted by Social and Rural Research Institute (SRI), an unit of International Marketing Research Bureau (IMRB), during July-October, 2005, there are 1.34 crore children in the age-group of 6-13 years, who are not in any kind of schooling facilities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) There is continuous effort by the State and Central Government to monitor educational achievement and quality across the

entire spectrum of education. Increasingly there is a stress on decentralization and devolution given the range and diversity of educational institutions across the country. However, national level institutions such as National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) provide information and benchmark against which States can calibrate their achievement over time.

Grant to Sanskriti School, Delhi

1961. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to issue a grant of Rs. 3.50 crores for Sanskriti School, Delhi;

(b) if so, the motives behind this decision of grant to a private school;

(c) the grants given to the private schools during the last two years; and

(d) the policy and rules adopted for providing financial grants to the private schools in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) According to information made available by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training, Government has approved financial assistance of Rs. 9.00 crores to Sanskriti School, Delhi, which is established primarily to cater to children of officers of All India and Central Services. The Financial assistance is for following purposes:

(i) Repayment of bank loan	Rs. 3.00 crore
(ii) Completion of construction of Auditorium etc.	Rs. 3.00 crore
(iii) Construction of Annexe Block	Rs. 3.00 crore

Out of this, an amount of Rs. 5.5 crore has already been released.

(c) and (d) Grant-in-aid to schools is essentially a State Government function. Under certain Centrally Sponsored Schemes, grants are released to State Government/NGOs for the benefit of schools/students. No capital